IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for ~~the~~ a customer to return ~~of~~ items supplied by a business establishment to said customer, comprising:

~~(a)~~ developing a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and ~~adding to said list only those items that are returnable according to said return policy~~ advising said customer of the likely return status of said listed items, said checking being performed by computing devices associated with a customer location that locally store said return policy;

~~(b)~~ presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

~~(c)~~ identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are authorized by said processing to be returnable and/or any of the items that are authorized by said processing not to be returnable ~~; wherein said return policy is stored locally to a computing device; and wherein said return policy includes a dynamic rule that a business condition must be satisfied~~, ~~said business condition being extrinsic to said list of items to be returned.~~, said processing comprising checking rules including a dynamic rule that a business value condition must be satisfied.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said confirmation ~~includes~~ further comprises presenting notification to said computing devices associated with a customer location of any updates to said return policy , and wherein said computing devices then update said locally stored return policy.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~return policy includes~~ rules comprise at least one rule that a condition must be satisfied, and wherein said condition is either temporal or usage.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said business condition is at least one condition selected from the group consisting of: ~~a current business condition,~~ a current market condition, an inventory level, a current demand, a weather condition, a seasonal factor, and any combination thereof.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>said developing</u> step ~~(a)~~ further comprises ~~: (a3)~~ determining if said return policy requires that one of said items needs to be physically returned to said business establishment, and if not, presenting notice that said one item can be discarded.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>said developing</u> step ~~(a)~~ further comprises ~~: (a4)~~ determining if said business establishment will have one of said items picked up, and if so, scheduling a pick up of that item and if not, presenting a notice that said item must be transported to the business establishment.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~(d)~~ <u>a step of</u> collecting data associated with said items, said data comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of: customer identification, product identification, store where purchased, date of purchase, date of return, quantity purchased, quantity returned, reason for return, and whether or not to return was handled as an exception to the returns policy.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising ~~(e)~~ <u>a step of</u> mining said data.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising making said data available for mining.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A computing system for processing the return of items <u>by a customer</u> supplied by a business establishment <u>, the system</u> comprising <u>one or more networked computing devices for</u> :

~~list building means for forming a list of items to be returned by~~ <u>developing</u> a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and adding to said list only those items that are returnable according to said return policy;

~~means for~~ presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

~~means for~~ identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are returnable and/or any of the items that are not returnable;

wherein said return policy includes a dynamic rule that ~~a business value must be satisfied, said business condition being extrinsic to the list of items to be returned~~ <u>one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of a current market condition, an inventory level, a current demand, a weather condition, a seasonal factor must be satisfied</u>.

16. (Original) The computing system of claim 15, wherein said computing devices further develop a notice to return an item that is determined not returnable according to said policy, and present said notice to said business establishment.

17. (Original) The computing system of claim 15, wherein said return policy includes a rule that a condition must be satisfied, and wherein said condition is either temporal or usage.

18. (Original) The computing system of claim 15, further comprising an input device, wherein each of said items to be returned is entered by said input device, and wherein said input device is selected from the group consisting of: keyboard, mouse, touch screen, stylus pad, radio frequency tag reader, bar code reader, microphone and any combination thereof.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) The computing system of claim 15, wherein ~~list building means~~ said computing devices further ~~determines~~ determine if said return policy requires that one of said items needs to be physically returned to said business establishment, and if not, ~~notifying~~ further notify a user that said one item can be discarded.

21. (Currently amended) The computing system of claim 15, wherein said ~~list building means~~ computing devices further ~~determines~~ determine if said business establishment will have one of said items picked up, and if so, ~~scheduling~~ further schedule a pick up of that item and if not, ~~presenting~~ further present notice to a user that said item must be transported to the business establishment.

22. (Currently amended) The computing system of claim 15, ~~further comprising means for collecting~~ wherein said computing devices further collect data associated with said items, wherein said data comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of: customer identification, product identification, store where purchased, date of purchase, date of return, quantity purchased, quantity returned, reason for return, and whether or not to return was handled as an exception to the returns policy.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The computing system of claim 15, further comprising an input device, wherein each of said items to be returned is entered by said input device, and wherein said input device is a radio frequency tag reader.

26. (Currently amended) A memory media for the control of a computer system that processes the return of items <u>by a customer</u> supplied by a business establishment comprising <u>, the memory media comprising instructions for</u> :

~~first means for controlling said computer system to perform a first operation of forming a list of items to be returned by~~ developing a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and adding to said list only those items that are returnable according to said return policy;

~~second means for controlling said computer system to perform a second operation of~~ presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

~~third means for controlling said computer system to perform a third operation of~~ identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are returnable and/or any of the items that are not returnable;

wherein said <u>return</u> policy includes a dynamic rule that ~~a business value must be satisfied, said business condition being extrinsic to the list of items to be returned~~ <u>one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of a current market condition, an inventory level, a current demand, a weather condition, a seasonal factor must be satisfied</u>.

27. (Currently amended) The memory media of claim 26 ~~, wherein said first operation further develops~~ <u>further comprising instructions for developing</u> a notice to return an item that is determined not returnable according to said policy, and ~~wherein said means~~ for presenting presents said notice to said business establishment.

28. (Original) The memory media of claim 26, wherein said return policy includes a rule that a condition must be satisfied, and wherein said condition is either temporal or usage.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The memory media of claim 26 ~~, wherein said first operation further determines~~ further comprising instructions for determining if said return policy requires that one of said items needs to be physically returned to said business establishment, and if not, ~~notifies~~ for notifying a user that said one item can be discarded.

31. (Currently amended) The memory media of claim 26 ~~, wherein said first operation further determines~~ further comprising instructions for determining if said business establishment will have one of said items picked up, and if so, for scheduling a pick up of that item and if not, for presenting notice to a user that that item must be transported to the business establishment.

32. (Currently amended) The memory media of claim 26, further comprising ~~means~~ instructions for collecting data associated with said items, wherein said data comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of: customer identification, product identification, store where purchased, date of purchase, date of return, quantity purchased, quantity returned, reason for return, and whether or not to return was handled as an exception to the returns policy.

33-34. (Canceled)

35. (New) A method for a customer to return of items supplied by a business establishment, comprising:

developing a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and adding to said list only those items that are returnable according to said return policy;

presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are returnable and/or any of the items that are not returnable,

wherein said return policy includes a dynamic rule that one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of a current market condition, an inventory level, a current demand, a weather condition, a seasonal factor must be satisfied.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said confirmation includes notification of any updates to said return policy.

37. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said developing step further comprises developing a notice to return an item that is determined not returnable according to said policy, and presenting said notice to said business establishment.

38. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said developing step further comprises determining if said return policy requires that one of said items needs to be physically returned to said business establishment, and if not, presenting notice that said one item can be discarded.

39. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said developing step further comprises determining if said business establishment will have one of said items picked up, and if so, scheduling a pick up of that item and if not, presenting a notice that said item must be transported to the business establishment.

40. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein said developing step employs an input device and said presenting and identifying steps employ one or more computing devices.

41. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein at least one of said computing devices is located remotely from said input device.

42. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein at least one of said computing devices is located locally to said input device.

43. (New) A computing system for processing the return of items by a customer supplied by a business establishment to said customer, the system comprising one or more networked computing devices for:

developing a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and advising said customer of the likely return status of said listed items, said checking being performed by computing devices associated with a customer location that locally store said return policy;

presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are authorized by said processing to be returnable and/or any of the items that are not authorized by said processing to be returnable, said processing comprising checking rules including a dynamic rule that a business value condition must be satisfied.

44. (New) The computing system of claim 43 wherein said computing devices further develop a notice to return an item that is determined not returnable according to said policy, and present said notice to said business establishment.

45. (New) The computing system of claim 43 wherein said return policy includes a rule that a condition must be satisfied, and wherein said condition is either temporal or usage.

46. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein said business condition is at least one condition selected from the group consisting of: a current market condition, an inventory level, a current demand, a weather condition, a seasonal factor, and any combination thereof.

47. (New) The computing system of claim 43 wherein said computing devices further determine if said return policy requires that one of said items needs to be physically returned to said business establishment, and if not, notify a user that said one item can be discarded.

48. (New) The computing system of claim 43 wherein said computing devices further determine if said business establishment will have one of said items picked up, and if so, schedule a pick up of that item and if not, present notice to a user that said item must be transported to the business establishment.

49. (New) The computing system of claim 43 further comprising an input device, wherein each of said items to be returned is entered by said input device, and wherein said input device is a radio frequency tag reader.

50. (New) A memory media for the control of a computer system that processes the return of items by a customer supplied by a business establishment comprising, the memory media comprising instructions for :

developing a list of items to be returned by checking each of said items to be returned with a return policy of said business establishment and advising said customer of the likely return status of said listed items, said checking being performed by computing devices associated with a customer location that locally store said return policy;

presenting said list of items for processing by said business establishment; and

identifying a confirmation of said items on said list that are authorized by said processing to be returnable and/or any of the items that are not authorized by said processing to be returnable, said processing comprising checking rules including a dynamic rule that a business value condition must be satisfied.